

REMARKS

Claims 1, 21 and 22 are amended. Claims 9 and 15-20 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 23-26 are new. As a result, claims 1-8, 10-14, and 21-26 are now pending in this application. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-8, 10-18, 21 and 22 are Allowable

The Office has rejected claims 1-8, 10-18, and 21-22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0065739 ("Florance") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,907,451 ("Mukundan"). Claims 15-18 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Neither the cited portions of Florance nor the cited portions of Mukundan teach or suggest the specific combination of claim 1. For example, the cited portions of Florance and Mukundan do not teach or suggest the services of an application layer including promptly notifying an application program having a variable dependent on a particular property when a notification of an update for the particular property is received, as in claim 1.

In contrast to claim 1, the cited portions of Florance disclose a system of "linked databases and computers to provide a wide array of digital service offerings including a leasing marketplace, a selling marketplace, decision support, tenant information, comparable sales information, property marketing, and industry news. All of these services are preferably digitally delivered and most clients receive daily service updates over the Internet." Florance, [0052]. Thus, Florance discloses updating real estate information by giving "daily service updates." Florance also states that the "contact management system directs the data mining applications to conduct continuous *pollings* of the data sources to update the real estate data." Florance, [0155] (emphasis added). Further, Florance discloses: "A significant aspect of the present invention is that the users, including clients and other members of the commercial real estate and related business community, assist the system operator by continuously updating the marketplace data. Each day thousands of updates to the marketplace database are made." Florance, [0054]. Thus, Florance expressly teaches polling and daily updates of real estate data, rather than promptly notifying an application program having a variable dependent on a particular property when a notification of an update for the particular property is received, as in claim 1.

In further contrast to claim 1, the cited portions of Mukundan teach an exchange between a client and a server. See Mukundan, FIG. 41 and column. 42, line 60 to column 43, line 9. In Mukundan, a client detects whether values in marked fields have changed and then sends the changed values to a server for processing. Mukundan, column, lines 1-6. The server processes the changes and responds to the client. Mukundan, column 43, lines 6-9. Mukundan does not teach or suggest promptly notifying an application program having a variable dependent on a particular property when a notification of an update for the particular property is received, as in claim 1.

Thus, the cited portions of Florance and Mukundan do not teach or suggest at least one element of claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2-8 and 10-14 depend from claim 1 and are also allowable based on their dependence from claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn. Further, the dependent claims recite additional elements not disclosed or suggested by the cited portions of Florance and Mukundan.

For example, the cited portions of Florance and Mukundan fail to disclose or suggest that the application layer maintains a lookup table that records, for each of a plurality of property keys, a list of property listeners that have registered with the application layer to listen for that property key, as in claim 3. Florance teaches polling and daily updates of real estate data. Mukundan teaches processing fields marked by a user. The cited portions of Florance and Mukundan do not disclose or suggest maintaining a look up table that records, for each of a plurality of property keys, a list of property listeners that have registered with the application layer to listen for that property key. For at least this additional reason, claim 3 is allowable.

As a further example, the cited portions of Florance and Mukundan fail to disclose or suggest receiving from an application program a list of property names upon which one or more variables of the application program depends, as in claim 23. Florance teaches polling and daily updates of real estate data. Mukundan teaches processing fields marked by a user. The cited portions of Florance and Mukundan do not disclose or suggest receiving from an application program a list of property names upon which one or more variables of the application program depends, as in claim 23. For at least this additional reason, claim 23 is allowable.

As a further example, the cited portions of Florance and Mukundan fail to disclose or suggest, for each property name, maintaining a list of application programs having a variable

dependent upon the property, as in claim 24. Florance teaches polling and daily updates of real estate data. Mukundan teaches processing fields marked by a user. The cited portions of Florance and Mukundan do not disclose or suggest, for each property name, maintaining a list of application programs having a variable dependent upon the property. For at least this additional reason, claim 24 is allowable.

The cited portions of Florance and Mukundan do not teach or suggest the specific combination of claim 21. For example, the cited portions of Florance and Mukundan do not teach or suggest promptly notifying an application having a variable dependent on a particular property when an update for the particular property is received, as in claim 21.

In contrast to claim 21, the cited portions of Florance disclose a system of “linked databases and computers to provide a wide array of digital service offerings including a leasing marketplace, a selling marketplace, decision support, tenant information, comparable sales information, property marketing, and industry news. All of these services are preferably digitally delivered and most clients receive daily service updates over the Internet.” Florance, [0052]. Thus, Florance discloses updating real estate information by giving “daily service updates.” Florance also states that the “contact management system directs the data mining applications to conduct continuous pollings of the data sources to update the real estate data.” Florance, [0155]. Further, Florance discloses: “A significant aspect of the present invention is that the users, including clients and other members of the commercial real estate and related business community, assist the system operator by continuously updating the marketplace data. Each day thousands of updates to the marketplace database are made.” Florance, [0054]. Thus, Florance expressly teaches polling and daily updates of real estate data, rather than promptly notifying an application having a variable dependent on a particular property when an update for the particular property is received, as in claim 21.

In further contrast to claim 21, the cited portions of Mukundan teach an exchange between a client and a server. See Mukundan, FIG. 41 and column. 42, line 60 to column 43, line 9. In Mukundan, a client detects whether values in marked fields have changed and then sends the changed values to a server for processing. Mukundan, column, lines 1-6. The server processes the changes and responds to the client. Mukundan, column 43, lines 6-9. The cited portions of Mukundan do not teach or suggest promptly notifying an application having a

variable dependent on a particular property when an update for the particular property is received, as in claim 21.

Therefore, the cited portions of Florance and Mukundan do not teach or suggest at least one element of claim 21. Accordingly, claim 21 is allowable. Claim 25 is allowable, at least by virtue of its dependence on claim 21. Further, claim 25 recites additional elements not disclosed or suggested by the cited portions of Florance and Mukundan.

For example, the cited portions of Florance and Mukundan fail to disclose or suggest that services further include registering the applications, receiving from an application a list of property names upon which one or more variables of the application depends, and, for each property name, maintaining a list of applications having a variable dependent upon the property, as in claim 25. Florance teaches polling and daily updates of real estate data. Mukundan teaches processing fields marked by a user. The cited portions of Florance and Mukundan do not disclose or suggest that services further include registering the applications, receiving from an application a list of property names upon which one or more variables of the application depends, and, for each property name, maintaining a list of applications having a variable dependent upon the property. For at least this additional reason, claim 25 is allowable.

The cited portions of Florance and Mukundan do not teach or suggest the specific combination of claim 22. For example, the cited portions of Florance and Mukundan do not teach or suggest promptly notifying an application having a variable dependent on a particular property when an update for the particular property is received, as in claim 22.

In contrast to claim 22, the cited portions of Florance disclose a system of “linked databases and computers to provide a wide array of digital service offerings ...these services are preferably digitally delivered and most clients receive daily service updates over the Internet.” Florance, [0052]. The cited portions of Florance do not teach or suggest promptly notifying an application having a variable dependent on a particular property when an update for the particular property is received, as in claim 22.

In further contrast to claim 22, the cited portions of Mukundan teach an exchange between a client and a server. See Mukundan, FIG. 41 and column. 42, line 60 to column 43, line 9. In Mukundan, a client detects whether values in marked fields have changed and then sends the changed values to a server for processing. Mukundan, column, lines 1-6. The server

processes the changes and responds to the client. Mukundan, column 43, lines 6-9. The cited portions of Mukundan do not teach or suggest promptly notifying an application having a variable dependent on a particular property when an update for the particular property is received, as in claim 22.

Therefore, the cited portions of Florance and Mukundan do not teach or suggest at least one element of claim 22. Accordingly, claim 22 is allowable. Claim 26 is allowable, at least by virtue of its dependence on claim 22. Further, claim 26 recites additional elements not disclosed or suggested by the cited portions of Florance and Mukundan.

For example, the cited portions of Florance and Mukundan fail to disclose or suggest that the services further include registering the applications, receiving from an application a list of property names upon which one or more variables of the application depends, and, for each property name, maintaining a list of applications having a variable dependent upon the property, as in claim 26. Florance teaches polling and daily updates of real estate data. Mukundan teaches processing fields marked by a user. The cited portions of Florance and Mukundan do not disclose or suggest the services further include registering the applications, receiving from an application a list of property names upon which one or more variables of the application depends, and, for each property name, maintaining a list of applications having a variable dependent upon the property. For at least this additional reason, claim 26 is allowable.

Conclusion

Applicants have pointed out specific features of the claims not disclosed, suggested, or rendered obvious by the cited portions of the references as applied in the Final Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of each of the rejections, as well as an indication of the allowability of each of the pending claims.


Any changes to the claims in this response, which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the cited art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below if such a call would in any way facilitate allowance of this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-2469.

Respectfully submitted,

1-16-2009
Date


Jeffrey G. Toler, Reg. No. 38,342
Attorney for Applicant(s)
TOLER LAW GROUP, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTIES
8500 Bluffstone Cove, Suite A201
Austin, Texas 78759
(512) 327-5515 (phone)
(512) 327-5575 (fax)